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At Camden, on the 24th of last month, Mr. Cassius Dwyer died at the advanced age of 100 years and four months. Mr. Dwyer's wife died at the same age last August, aged eighty-eight.

A large number of gentlemen, of all shades of political opinion, are taking steps to purchase the Wisconsin Estate for Mr. Charles Cowper's family. The total amount as yet subscribed for this purpose is \$675.

The Presbytery of Sydney met at St. Stephen's (Presbyterian) Church in Macquarie-street, on the 1st instant, and transacted business.

Another notice of prorogation has appeared, but not to the dismay of business. The Government—it is said—intends to meet the Parliament in the month of

The ordinary three days Autumn race meeting at Sandwick commenced on Thursday, the 3rd instant. The first day was won by Mr. Fisher's "Blackbird," the second by Mr. A. Macdonald's "cock," the third race by Mr. Donaldson's "Mormon" and the fourth by Mr. O'Malley's "Vatendoun," and the fifth by Mr. John Blair's "Warrior."

An outrage was committed early last Wednesday morning at the new Anglican church now building at Amberco. The three stone crosses with which the churchyard is adorned, and the two ends of the nave were decorated with wreaths of flowers, and the altar, and apparently destroyed with an axe or hatchet.

The Ursa steamer, when entering the Clarence river on Wednesday afternoon, grounded whilst

and the buoy." The tide immediately swept her away, and she was soon bearing a total wreck. The passengers, the crew, and the mails were saved, but the cargo was destroyed.

A public meeting of the friends and supporters of the Free Church of England was convened last Thursday evening, in the church in Bourke-street, at which Mr. J. H. Parnell, M. P., presided. A report was read and adopted, and a collection made in aid of the funds of the denomination.

There was a numerous attendance of members of the Protestant Mutual Improvement Society last Thursday night, to hear an ably written essay by Mr. John Hobbie on a topic which has occupied the attention of some of the ablest social reformers of the age—"The vices of the streets."

(London Correspondent of the Standard.)

A meeting of the "Carpenters' and Joiners' Progress Society" was held last Thursday night at Mr. J. H. Campbell's residence, in reference to the celebration of the Eight-hundredth Anniversary of the occupation of the chair. The system was introduced in Sydney about four years ago, and the event has been generally celebrated by an annual revision of the constitution, together with the presence of many friends.

A large and important meeting of ratepayers was held at the Woolhalls Council Chambers, on Thurs-

[illegible]

the convenience of the visits to which we have invited them. I have no doubt that they will be converted to their favourite and more lucrative occupation of speering, having secured every track of the Hamiltons' and having secured several such tracks for themselves. I have no doubt that they will be converted to their favourite and more lucrative occupation of speering, having secured every track of the Hamiltons' and having secured several such tracks for themselves. I have no doubt that they will be converted to their favourite and more lucrative occupation of speering, having secured every track of the Hamiltons' and having secured several such tracks for themselves.

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men for the day's dinner were just thoroughly busy. One of the men was between the range and a long outcrop of rock and was just about to turn back to the camp when he looked up, he saw the chimney just appearing over the hill and he found safety in the nearest corner; and the other men also escaped unhurt. The table was just being set and the guests were just about to be seated when the heavy clouds were blown down, to the damage of faces near the table. Throughout the day the shipping rode well to their anchors, no accident having occurred.

*Great Gale of October 20th.* *Daily Times of April* 1861 mentions that the total exports of gold from the province of Otago, from the time of the discovery of the goldfields until the end of the year 1860, amounted to 1,560,000 ounces, or 1,560,000 x 35 = 54,600,000 lbs. or 1,560,000 x 16 = 25,000,000 lbs. or 1,560,000 x 7,000 = 10,920,000,000 grains. Since the commencement of the year, 41,200 ounces of gold have been exported, or 41,200 x 35 = 1,442,000 lbs. or 41,200 x 16 = 659,200 lbs. or 41,200 x 7,000 = 288,400,000 grains since the discovery

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**WILLIAM** expressly for the purpose of leading this new post in Majesty's interest, in the progress of the rebellion, and the public safety have been secured. Sir, your obedient servant, the Comd-General F. DE CASTELLAN, at Redmond Barry, trustee of the Melbourne Public Library."

[illegible]

and, under section 79 of the Municipalities Act of 1906, he is entitled to receive the same rate of interest as the rate of interest on the current municipal year; and that a rate of 10, in the 100 of the said fair average annual value of the said lands, houses, premises, counting-houses, shops, and other buildings, be, and the same is hereby assessed and imposed for the year current and the next year." Diverged. The common seal of the corporation was duly affixed to the said assessment by the expert scribe of the City. The terminated the business, and the meeting adjourned.



## THE UTILISATION OF WATER

**THE UTILISATION OF WATER.**  
(From the *Federal Times*, April 28.)  
Parliament is prorogued and members are released for attendance, but the position of the colony still calls for their personal labour. The prorogation will be a relief, and if the country is to be benefited by the legislation of 1901, at least the preparation of bills will occupy all the spare time of our legislators. Some of the most important measures will be undertaken by the Ministry, but there are many more subjects requiring attention than will be noticed by the Government, and these devolve on private members. When they introduce their bills they may possibly get the

part of the Administration; but if they want attention paid to local requirements or particular interests, the best course is to prepare and bring forward bills, and then to get the questions fully discussed. In these districts where there are many such matters for our local members to look after, and amongst the foremost is the utilization of water, whether it exists in the form of rivers or hill-basins, or deep-water springs. There is an enormous waste-producing power in water; in fact, it is the main source of the potential energy, when it is plentiful, the source of prosperity—its absence is ruin and desolation. The Government has the scientific staff to study these problems, and

in its proof unnecessary; yet we think it is associated. How otherwise can we rec-

The first question to decide is, can it be done? and the answer is yes. We do not profess to engineering, but we have the fact that the fall of the river at Riverina is under three inches per mile. This is a very small gradient, but it is sufficient to allow the water to flow at long distances apart, but it likewise disallows the construction of permanent trunks that year by year the beds of the rivers are raised higher. A fall of less than three inches, as here portrayed, would require time unless artificial means are adopted, this will fill up the present channels and force the waters into others. The

to deal with this question. Nature is slow in many of her ways, and the ill-natured may make haste to the consideration of our present wants. We want to retain the water, and serve two masters at the same time—the pastoral and shipping. Mr. Phelps, the member for Balranald, opened the question in the Assembly last session, and was met by the put off—that it was not desirable that a motion should be taken until the party then engaged surveying the Darling had completed its labours and furnished reliable data to the House. This is the convenient and usual mode of procrastinating matters of vital interest to those parts of the colony far distant from the seat of Government.

test from the metropolis, but we should be wrong were we  
beneficial to the colony that the rivers should be locked  
the converse. If the affirmative be acknowledged, the  
the rivers should be carried on as soon as possible  
the requisite means for the estimate. Whereas the  
Ministers do so, what shall believe they are in earnest  
their desire to help their distant friends but until they  
we shall take the liberty of doubting their sincerity.

The deperate state of the finances can no longer be a  
excuse to postpone justice to finance. The new data  
£20,000 is collected at the Murray customs. The £60,000  
is calculated on the returns for the quarter ending the 31st

[illegible]

be great, and the main half to be credited to the portion of river-beds that would be one-half of the whole, and the half in which the Bitterton Government money have not been spent. Justice is to be accorded, there should be an equivalent return here for the money collected at the Burder country and unless it be done in the way described we see no other way to justify the expenditure of the money. The money that we ask for, and railways can be constructed so cheaply that they would more than pay for themselves, so where money there is to be spent cannot be better expended than in looking the rivers. The work would be of a permanent character, and benefit the present and future ages, while the money would form a fine revenue for the government to pay off the debt.

Besides our payments in customs, we contribute enormous sums to the Treasury in rents, proceeds of land sales, etc. The rents of stations, which form the largest item of payment, is looked upon by residents in the land district as payment for value received, and not a tax. But we would ask whether money from land sale, houses, and other kindred sources of revenue, cannot be regarded in the same way? We admit that there is value received, but likewise that the entire economy benefits by the investment of homes, capital, and hence they have a right to a fair share of Government money being spent in their own neighbourhoods. Whatever may be said of the rents, nothing can be said

grant our right to the hard cash collected by the Board of Customs. In a few weeks we shall have a return of what the amount really is, and to this amount our right cannot be equally be disputed. Let the members for these Districts urge the claim and, if necessary, procure the assistance of the numerous body in Parliament under by Mr. Cowper to be available in divisions concerning Riverine pollution. United action is at all times advisable, but more particularly so in this instance, when the great mass of the people are unacquainted with the outline of advantages sought to be gained by the investment of a large sum of money. We have as yet heard

To attempt being made at estimating the cost of looking and should be glad to find that parties interested had procured even a rough estimate. Victoria would no doubt be in the principal work, that of erecting a lock below Wenatchee, and also in what others were necessary on the Murray. The Edward, running out of and into that stream would be controlled by the Murray locks, and the river requiring the sole capital of New South Wales would be the Murrumbidgee, Lachlan, and Darling.

led the way, and to gather support and information during the necessary cessation of Parliamentary duties.

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## NEW ZEALAND.

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### SIR GEORGE GREY'S VISIT TO ROTORUA.

*(From the Weekly News, April 21.)*

We lately gave a detailed account of the important meeting of the Governor and the Superintendent with the natives at Tauranga, when the question of the

communicated, and was put in a fair way for being quietly settled. After the meeting the Governor left for Roturua, and spent some days in that district, and had a meeting, which may have important results with Te Heuheu, the chief of Taupo, who has always been a steady Kingite. Te Heuheu came on to Auckland with the Governor, who intends, we believe, to visit the West Coast, taking that chief with him. If, on visiting Kawhia, Rewi can be conciliated, there will be no chief of the very first rank left amongst the Kingites.

We are assured by a Tauranga native that the Ngaiterangi had no intention of repudiating their agreement as to the giving up of a portion of the lands, and that the Governor was wrong when he spoke angrily as if they had such an intention.

As no narrative has yet been published of the proceedings of the Governor in the Lake district, we print the following narrative given by an Arawa who accompanied the party. It is nearly a literal translation of the words used by the native:—

The Governor left Tauranga on Tuesday, the 27th of March, and arrived at the Lake on the 29th.

of Maori, for Astoria, with Colonel Hamilton, of the 12th Regiment; Captain Wilson, of the Waikato Militia; Mr. Mair, Resident Magistrate at Taupo; Wiremu Maiti te Rangikaheki (William Marsh), and Mitiaki Kiaro, of the Arawa; and Hori Kingi and Hori Kereke, of Wanganui. They went on horseback, and reached Maketu about noon. There the Governor was met by a party of the Arawa, the principal chiefs being Hori Hauapa and Te Pūhū. On the Governor's arrival speeches of welcome were made by the chiefs. The Governor replied. He said, "There is a good deal of trouble in the land, but I am glad to see you."

All the dogs heard the Governor say that, as well as the bushes and the grass (meaning the Governor) spoke quite openly). Then the Governor spoke like this: "Now, O family! Motiti (Flat Island) will be my kineya, and the island of Mokoia will be my hearth, for it is the place of my ancestor, Tuhourangi. [Then the Governor, speaking to Te Pūshu, said "Give us to me Matawhāia, the place of my ancestor Pīkiao. The Māteahua did not me place."

The Governor also said: "One boundary line of the Arawa will be at Wairakei, and the other at Awa-te-Arua." The Arawa made no reply, nor being pleased, [It may be mentioned as explanatory of this, that the Arawa claim the land up to the right bank of Tauranga harbour. They say that Ngaiterangi are intruders.] On the following morning the Governor went to Rotorua, a day's journey on horseback. The party arrived before night, and the Governor went into a pa named Mouri, where 400 of the Arawa and Tebebebe remained.

(From "A Bundle of Stories," in the S. A. Register.)  
RIDING with an old weather-beaten man on the way between Goolwa and Victor Harbour, I found that the bays and shores in that neighbourhood possessed a history older even than South Australia itself. "Them there bones," he said, in answer to a question as to whence a little whitewashed cottage which passed had obtained its gigantic whale's jaw for a porch, "came out of a whale which I helped catch more than thirty-three years ago." I rode

that that story wouldn't do for me, as the colony has not been established more than twenty-nine years and that it was impossible for him to have lived in the district thirty-three years ago. "Ah!" he said, "that just shows the ignorance of you townspeople. You think this part of the coast was always the same quiet place as it is now. Lor a massy! Thirty years ago Encounter Bay was full of fine spouting whales you'd see them as many as fifty at a time—their great black backs so close together that you might see the whole of the bay. Now the Liberator that is this place is

"Do you mean to say," I asked, "that Victor Harb had its whale fisheries before the colony of South Australia was founded?" "As to Victor Harbour," replied, "there was no such name, though it was called Victoria Harbour some time afterwards, when Queen began to mount upon the throne: but speak of the whales, my word: why Captain. Blenkinsop began to dredge and fish in 1837," cried Sir John Jeff.

he was drowned in 1897 with an east coast fisherman, a crossin the Murray-mouth—why when he began fishing here, about thirty-five years ago, the fin-fish was as plenty as snappers now be in the Gulf, and he fished for the Captain from the beginnin, and it ought to know. With three boats and a small cutter at a station we'd get more nor 300 tons of fish in a season. So did the Henty's at Portland; but the game was up when a lot o' new chums come to frightened away the fish. Besides, Captain Blenkinsope, he was drowned; and nobody else understood

"Why, you see, whales is very sensitive. They used to come into Encounter Bay to calve, 'cause they like a high sandy beach where they can rest and send themselves with their noses out of the water. The people who didn't understand the nature of the whales soon worried 'em at calvin time, and so, in consequence, they went and looked out for quiet places. Why, you wouldn't believe it, but the very first

year that the Government, the Company, and one of the other begun to interfere the captain's yield of fish fell off from 400 tons to 200 tons, and the fishermen was soon spoiled altogether. Now-a-days you do see nothin of it, but just occasionally an old fish-blowin about outside, and takin a look, maybe, at the pretty little spot whar he was born."

All these old matters were a novelty to me. It was like stumbling upon the remains of an ancient city, the midst of a new, prim, stuccoed little town. Here was Victor Harbour, with its roofs of galvanized iron

Port Elliot, with its thriving shops; and the R. Inman winding down between pleasant country residences; whilst here, on the other hand, my new-found friend, the Ancient Mariner, telling of pre-historic times, when the country was without name and without a Government, but yet all alive this particular bay with an industry which has now completely disappeared. Nothing remains of it except the site of the whaling station on the beach, the man who tells of the past, and the huge bones of the whale and there form gothic porches to neat little

In answer to my questions as to whether the aborigines used to assist much in the fishing business the old sailor looked serious, and said, "no; they did do much; besides some of them were not to be trusted at all." This was especially the case with the Murray Tribe, who lived to the eastward of the B and who sometimes committed savage murders. Did he recollect any of those murders? Well, he should say he did, for about twenty-

years ago Captain Pullen had employed him as one of a boat's crew to go in search of some natives who had murdered the passengers and crew of a vessel bound from Port Adelaide to Van Diemen's Land. Too well did he remember that on account of his following. The particulars were very short, and he would just tell 'em to me as the ear joggled along between Port Elliott and Victor Harbour. He then, after satisfactorily disposing of his quid of tobacco entered upon a recital, which in effect is what is here subjoined, though I cannot understand how

It was in July, 1840, that the brig Maria, chartered with a miscellaneous cargo, sailed from Port Adelaide for Van Diemen's Land. She had on board sixteen passengers, including several women and children, one being an infant; and there were also, besides the captain and mate, eight men and boys, so that altogether there were twenty-six souls on board. The little vessel sailed briskly down the coast, and was seen by the crew of the *Porpoise* on the 10th of July.

the Gulf; but the wind fell off soon after had got through Backstairs Passage, and for days there was almost a dead calm. What little there was blew off the land, and its only effect was to smooth the sea into one large oily sheet of water. But at last there were indications of a change—one of those changes so common after a long continuance of sultry weather. Dark flaws of wind began to creep up from the south, and the captain of the brig saw that a heavy storm was about to burst upon him. Therefore took great precaution to strengthen it. But

first blast carried away the little sail which remained set, and in less than an hour the vessel with the terrified passengers were drifting bodily among the breakers, which were bursting over the sides of those dangerous reefs not far to the east of Rivoli Bay. It will be remembered how in a similar position the steamship *Admella* was dashed into two pieces—the stern only being left for a while standing out of the water. In the case of the unfortunate *Maria*, the vessel almost immediately broke up and sank, and the passengers were rescued.

How could that be known if none escaped? Why, said the old man, it is just this part of

matter that I saw with my own eyes. I was working at the fishery, when two natives—Encounter Bay, Bob and One-armed Charley—came and told me that a Murray tribe native had brought news of a wreck and murder near Rivoli Bay. T was told to the police, and Captain Pullen was sent to find out all particulars. He accordingly took a boat from the fisheries, and I was one of the crew. The Murray native was with us, and he soon showed the captain where the murder had been committed. We landed, and a more horrible sight was never seen.

remains of eight bodies were found—and found, too, such a state as to convince me that cannibalism as well as murder had been resorted to. From bits of cloth and other articles there were means of identifying those bodies with some of the male and female passengers of the Maria. They had probably sought to save their way overland from the wreck, and had been treacherously set upon whilst quite unable to defend themselves. Three little children were amongst the number thus cruelly murdered.

the pleasant chat about the whales, that I tried to change the subject by remarking that the natives about Victor Harbour seemed to be a very pleasant lot now. Oh, they have never been any otherwise, he said; it was the Big Murray Tribe that were such villains; that tribe had murdered many people; they were much more ferocious than any others, and it was just a lesson to them when Major O'Halloran, after Captain Pullen's report, went down and executed four or five of them on the spot. They behaved better

ever afterwards, and crews of vessels cast upon shore have never since been molested.

It was clearly impossible to bring the old mariners back to the subject of the whales again, and what more, the end of the journey, as well as the end of the story, had now been reached. We therefore parted, with the hope of having more talk about Encounter Bay whales some other time.

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**MINING MATTERS IN ARAUQUEN.**—So far as we learn these districts have not been visited by the

several weeks as formerly. This is owing to the decided unpopularity of one or two of the old claims, and also the suspension of a short time of one of the large claims known as De Ronco's, owing to a mishap to the engine. In this claim alone there are many as one hundred and forty hand men employed. A new ground opened in the Panhandle is being rapidly taken up. On a portion of the ground about *Wapiti* however, a dispute has arisen between the miners and the Government Commissioner as to the proclaimed road to Elkhington to Crown Flat, upon which the Commissioner is of opinion the miners are trespassing. — *Bridgford* patch.

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